

### ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

An exhaust system for a marine engine uses an orifice to distribute liquid coolant flow between two alternative and parallel paths. One coolant path passes through a generally horizontal portion of an exhaust elbow and the other coolant  
5 path passes through the orifice and directly to a vertical riser of the exhaust elbow. The ratio of flow between the two paths changes as a function of engine speed because of the operation of the orifice which provides increased resistance to flow as a function of increased pressure drop across the orifice. Although coolant liquid continues to flow through both paths at all times, the relative magnitudes of the  
10 two parallel flows are changed in response to changes in the coolant flow into the elbow which, in turn, changes as a function of engine speed.